

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: May 27, 2011
POSITION: Neutral

BILL NUMBER: AB 528
AUTHOR: W. Chesbro

BILL SUMMARY: Fish and Game: Steelhead Trout

Existing law authorizes the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) to annually collect a fee of \$5 for a steelhead trout fishing report-restoration card from any person with a valid sport fishing license through July 1, 2012, and to establish the fishing report-restoration card program for steelhead trout enhancement.

This bill would extend the collection of the \$5 fee until July 1, 2017. The bill would require DFG to report to the Legislature regarding the projects funded from the fee revenues by July 1, 2016.

FISCAL SUMMARY

Revenues from the card are deposited into the Fish and Game Preservation Fund and are available in a dedicated account for expenditure to monitor, restore, or enhance steelhead trout resources. Approximately \$300,000 is deposited annually into the Fish and Game Preservation Fund from these card revenues.

The bill would extend the collection of the \$5 fee, ensuring that existing revenues continue to support existing DFG programs.

The bill would not result in additional costs to DFG. We note that the estimated balance in the account for fiscal year 2011-12 is \$204,000.

COMMENTS

The Department of Finance is neutral on the bill. The bill would extend an existing fishing license fee and concerns a policy matter on which we are neutral.

We note that the majority of steelhead populations throughout the state are listed under the California Endangered Species Act. The steelhead trout fishing report-restoration card is the only DFG card issued that collects data on steelhead fishing. DFG uses the collected data to initiate projects to improve steelhead habitat and populations, and enhance steelhead fishing opportunities.

		SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)								
Code/Department		LA	(Dollars in Thousands)								
Agency or Revenue		CO	PROP								Fund
Type		RV	98	FC	2011-2012	FC	2012-2013	FC	2013-2014	Code	
1215/Fish GameLic		RV	No	----- No/Minor Fiscal Impact -----						0200	
<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Title</u>										
0200	Fish and Game Preservation Fund										

Analyst/Principal (0634) M. Almy	Date	Program Budget Manager Karen Finn	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

BILL ANALYSIS	Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)
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